



# HELIOGRAM

The Military Officers Association of America  
**Coronado Chapter**  
October 2024  
Volume 51 Number 7



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### CORONADO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Life Members:	72
Basic and Annual Members:	141
Surviving Spouse	37
Honorary Members:	6
<b>Total Chapter Membership:</b>	<b>256</b>

## 2024 CORONADO CHAPTER GOALS

1. Support the 2024 MOAA National Advocacy in Action priorities through their widespread publication via weekly Legislative Alerts, monthly articles in our newsletter and engagement with appropriate representatives and elected officials.
2. Continually encourage our members to "Never Stop Serving" by providing avenues for their active involvement with organizations and groups sharing MOAA's mission as well as strengthening the bond between the Chapter and its membership.
3. Support the educational goals of qualified JROTC students and graduating seniors through the award of merit based scholarships to students in recognition of their past achievements and potential for leadership.
4. Annually nominate a deserving veteran for induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame, Canyon Vista Medical Center's Veterans Wall, or the United Veterans Council's Veteran of the Year.
5. Revamp and revitalize our social media space to increase the visibility of the MOAA brand as well as provide online capabilities to facilitate dispensing with current manual processes for activities and payments.



## PRESIDENT

**Edward A. Wozniak, LTC, USA (Ret)**

edward.wozniak@cox.net

(520) 249-0926

“Never Stop Serving”

As we continue to expand our membership and pursue new opportunities to highlight our services we find that our members come face to face with many unanswered questions. Tri-care for life is a valued part of military retirement packages and preserving this benefit remains a top priority for MOAA. Follow our Past President’s weekly legislative alerts to stay informed on this and other important topics.

Keeping up to date on spousal and surviving spouses benefits can also be a challenge. While social security is not a military benefit MOAA’s benefit team is asked about it often. Check in with our Surviving Spouses group on Page 9 to stay connected.

We are continuing to expand our visibility and identifying new opportunities to showcase our services through constant local involvement. Partnering with local officials through our public affairs team we pursue participation in city, county, and Ft Huachuca community outreach events. See the Public Affairs page on recent happenings and come join us! Get active in your Chapter, identify individuals who would benefit from chapter membership and who could contribute to making our Chapter even better.



Ed Wozniak, President, Coronado Chapter MOAA  
Mark Dannels, Cochise County Sheriff  
MG Richard Appelhans, CG,  
USAICoE & Ft. Huachuca

And now I’ve saved the best for last. The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society annually recognizes Arizona veterans for their significant post-military contributions. These are veterans who have not only honorably served their country, but who have also served their communities thru their charitable and volunteer work. This year the Coronado Chapter nominated three deserving members for consideration. Out of 24 finalists, our three nominees were among 15 selected for induction. BIG CONTRATULATIONS to Jane Strain, Theresa Walsh and Trish Thompson, I can’t think of three more deserving individuals. For those interested in attending, an induction ceremony will be held on Friday, November 1, 2024 at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale. Tickets are available at [www.azuav.org](http://www.azuav.org)

And last but not least, “Never Stop Serving”.

Ed Wozniak, President



## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**James Clenney, LCDR, USN (Ret)**

j2k2c4@gmail.com

(520) 234-5286

I am very pleased to help present the ballot for this coming years' elections. The chapter members who have signed up to serve are representative of many things. They are typically known by you as laboring in many other complex duties. The incumbents listed on the ballot often serve in significant roles of many local non-profit operations. They are adept at guiding finances, administration, organization, and direction of the work. The officers who seek your support are active members of Rotarians, Kiwanis, DAV, VFW, VVA, and other groups with significant local impact. Several of these are active advocates, serving on advisory boards of Federal, State, and local elected officials. These people have active histories of investing time and attention as they stand in the gap to address the needs of neighbors and the veteran community.

The Coronado Chapter and MOAA need your help. The Chapter needs you to vote on the proposed ballot of chapter officers; to keep the chapter running smoothly. The elected office-bearer needs your support (with attention, time, and effort). The veteran community needs your efforts to help in reduction/elimination of veteran homelessness, untreated mental health issues, and hunger. The challenges are great. The involvement of seasoned officers and experienced spouses is quite possibly the one element that will tip the scales toward our actions having a positive impact.

Have you ever developed and directed the completion of a mission? Have you ever communicated your satisfaction (or dissatisfaction) to an elected official? Have you ever comforted someone? Have you ever guided someone through regulations? Have you ever researched technical information to answer a specific question? Have you ever stood beside someone who is going through challenging times, as a present and silent comrade? If you have done any of these, you can help the Chapter reach OUR collective goals. All of these are activities that our Directors do (mostly single handedly) on a regular basis.

Help them. Please.

Ballots and instructions will be sent via separate email on 21 October and must be received NLT November's dinner meeting on 21 November.

James Clenney, Immediate Past President



## CHAPLAINS CORNER

**Chaplain Allen Goodman, CW2, USAR (Ret)**

agoodman0663@yahoo.com

(719) 440-1105

Greetings everyone! I hope and pray that everyone is doing well.

This past month, our Chapter suffered a loss of three of our members; LTC (Ret) David Dolge, BG (Ret) John Blair and Surviving Spouse Jan Cole. Please keep those families in your prayers.

As a reminder, please keep me informed of any of our members that may need our assistance. We have members who are willing and able to help in any way.

Finally, please keep the following members in your prayers. If you're able to, please call or pay a short visit to them. Let them know that they are not forgotten. I know it would be appreciated.

### Special Prayers & Concerns

Betsy Carver	Barbara Hall	Nancy Fyffe	John Peele	Harley Hannsz
Bob Abney	Billie Stockl	John Black	Ann Lander	Donna Isler
Olga Valle	Kandy Clenney	Kathy Dolge	Betty Blair	Lucinda Rossow
	Marianne Newcomer		Jan Cole Family	

And as always, pray for our military members and their families for their continued safety as they serve around the globe.

Allen Goodman, Chaplain





## DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

**James Clenney, LCDR, USN (Ret)**

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(520) 234-5286

The below was created for a group of local veterans organizations to inform local senior executives about the status of our veteran community. It was, by necessity, very short. The information has subsequently proven quite impactful in opening the eyes of the reader about critical needs that exist. I offer it as, hopefully, a trigger toward movement. Cochise County needs support, most often in the way of funding, from Federal and State agencies. That makes this a political fight. I urge you to read this, consider ways to better our position through our elected representatives.

### Problem Statement

The current level and makeup of mental health provider resources in Cochise County are insufficient to meet the acute and chronic mental health needs of our veteran residents.

### Background

#### Component 1: Population of Veteran Citizens

In 2020, Cochise County ranked fourth nationally in the percentage of adults who have served in uniform, at 19.4%. Our veteran population is generally older, predominantly male, married, college-educated, and underemployed, with many living in their own homes and living with at least one person with a disability<sup>(1)</sup>.

#### Component 2: Veteran Suicide

The U.S. military has suffered 101,847 casualties across Vietnam, Korea, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan. In contrast, over the past 20 years, there have been more than 120,000 veteran suicides.<sup>(2)</sup> In 2023, veteran suicides accounted for 20.6% of all U.S. adult suicides, with a similar percentage in Arizona between 2015 and 2019. Arizona's veteran suicide rate remains significantly higher than both the national veteran suicide rate and the general population suicide rate, with veteran suicides in the state occurring at a rate ~23 points higher than the overall rate for all Arizonans.<sup>(3)</sup>

Between 1999 and 2016, 453,577 individuals aged 25 to 64 years died by suicide in the United States, with middle-aged and older veterans (50 years and older) comprising approximately 65% of these deaths.<sup>(3)</sup> Suicide rates were notably higher and increased more rapidly in rural areas compared to large metropolitan counties. While 28% of veterans live in rural areas, compared to 14% of the general population, Cochise County has the second-highest rate of veteran suicide in Arizona, at 110.8 suicides per 100,000 population<sup>(4)</sup>.

In 2020, an average of 6.7 veterans per day, who had an encounter with the VA in the year prior to death, died by suicide. Of the approximately 20 veteran suicides per day, six involved recent users of VA Health services.<sup>(5)</sup>

### Component 3: Available Support Services

In 2023, the VA allocated \$2.8 billion to provide veteran medical care in Arizona, with \$115,000 specifically designated for Cochise County to cover medical services, administration, facility maintenance, educational support, research, and other overhead costs <sup>(6)</sup>. This is 0.00536% of Arizona's part of the VA budget. The median availability of psychiatrists in rural counties is less than 1 per 100,000 residents, further highlighting the shortage of private or public mental health providers in our area. <sup>(7)</sup>

### Conclusions

Without immediate action to increase provider availability and expand access to care, the county's veteran population will continue to face unacceptable risks, particularly concerning suicide. It is imperative that we address these gaps to honor the service and sacrifices of our veterans.

The data clearly underscores a critical need for enhanced mental health services tailored to the unique needs of Cochise County. Addressing the mental health challenges facing Cochise County's veterans is not just a matter of providing services—it's a matter of responsibility. With veteran suicide rates alarmingly high, particularly in rural areas like ours, it is crucial to act now. The current shortfall in provider availability and support services places this vulnerable population at an increased risk of adverse outcomes, including suicide. To rectify this, strategic investments and targeted interventions are necessary to strengthen our mental health infrastructure. We can create a community where every veteran receives the support they need to thrive.

There are several elements that will feel the impact of actions that YOU take. They include: Our representatives need to know that we are a significant voting bloc. Do our representatives know about and support the current distribution of funds to our community needs? Do our representatives (and local leaders) know that continuing the status quo will continue to cost the community in scarce resource utilization, revenue losses, and lost lives? Let's tell them and make sure they know.

- Senator Kyrsten Sinema -- [www.sinema.senate.gov](http://www.sinema.senate.gov) – (202) 224-4521  
Phoenix Office: (602) 598-7327
  - Senator Mark Kelly -- [www.kelly.senate.gov](http://www.kelly.senate.gov) – (202) 224-2235  
Phoenix Office: (602) 671-7901
  - Congressman Juan Ciscomani – <https://ciscomani.house.gov/> (202) 225-2542  
Sierra Vista Office: (520) 459-3115
- Arizona Legislative District 19:
- Senator David Gowan [Email: DGOWAN](mailto:DGOWAN). (602) 926-5154
  - Representative Lupe Diaz [Email Lupe Diaz](mailto:LUPE.DIAZ) (602) 926-4852.
  - Representative Gail Griffin [Email Gail Griffin](mailto:GAIL.GRIFFIN) 602-926-5895

Arizona Legislative District 21:

- Senator Rosanna Gabaldón. [Email: RGABALDON](mailto:RGABALDON) 602-926-3424
- Representative Consuelo Hernandez. [Email: CHERNANDEZ](mailto:CHERNANDEZ) (602) 926-3523
- Representative Stephanie Hamilton [Email: SSTAHLHAMILTON](mailto:SSTAHLHAMILTON) (602) 926-3279

Jim Clenney, Legislative Affairs



## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

**Allen Goodman, CW2, USAR (Ret)**

agoodman0663@yahoo.com

(719) 440-1105

I'm writing this article the morning after our September Dinner Meeting. After a long summer, it was sure nice to get back together and see everyone again.

Mark your calendar to ride with us at the Veterans Day parade on November 11th. We'll have our tractor and hay rack (the "Holy Roller") again this year. We'll form up on Wilcox Drive just east of the Penske Truck Rental and by special "Good Buddy Old Pal" arrangements, Chapter members are allowed to park in the lot behind the truck rental building on 7th Street and Wilcox Drive. Upon completion of the parade a van will be available to take everyone back to their vehicles. Don't forget to attend our Veterans Day picnic and New Member welcome at Tompkins Park. See the Scholarship Director page for more information on that.



In addition, I'm planning a trip to the Pima Air and Space Museum in Tucson on October 11th. Like all of our outings, transportation will be available. We'll meet at 0800 in front of the (south lot) of Dillards Department store at the Sierra Vista Mall. Get your reservations to me ASAP to reserve your seat for this exciting tour and watch your inbox for the flyer and further details.

One last thing; Remember, we're all recruiters, so ask your fellow officers to join our Chapter. I recommend you keep a few of our tri-folds handy to give out and in case you don't have any tri-folds, ask me the next time we meet.

Allen Goodman, Membership Director

### “Hail, New Members!”

CPT Jack Linder	MAJ (Ret) Chris Irvin	CW4 Tim Flowers
Surviving Spouse Kathy Dolge	Surviving Spouse Voleta Hummel	
2LT Maximillian King	Surviving Spouse Betty Blair	

### October Birthdays

Benjamin Altman	William Bates	Linda Bales	Melissa Berg
Chloe Brown	Kathy Cammack	Jim Clenney	Tammie Coleman
Marjorie Conroy	Micarla Core	Reid Culton	Donna Goodman
Midge Grieshop	Barbra Hall	Janice Hurd	John Ives
Merle Kilpatrick	John Konugres	Lanny Kope	Jack Lee
Kyle Melles	Adelle Moore	Michael Munroe	Billie Stockl
Dulcie Trottier			







## PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

**Kaylee Nix-Wozniak**

moapublicaffairs@gobalsmarts.us

(520) 732-9631

**Public Affairs Team;** Ed Wozniak MOAA Coronado Chapter

President, Bobby Wise American Legion #52 Commander, Greg

Algorri VFW Post 9972 Commander, Andy Van Veen Dep

Director, Warrior Healing Center, Young Mayberry, CD6

Veterans Advisor, Clea McCaa City of Sierra Mayor, Marta Messner SV Council Member

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS GEARS UP WITH THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA FOR VETERANS DAY

The September Public Affairs Team meeting was held on 13 Sep 24 at the Sierra Vista City Hall. Our mission was to develop a cohesive plan and partnership with the City of Sierra Vista for increasing the visibility of veteran groups therein and raising awareness of the support they can provide to assist and address veteran issues in the local community. To put advocacy in action and make an impact for Veterans and the service communities, planning continues on the upcoming Veterans Day activities to celebrate our hometown veterans community. A follow up meeting is scheduled for 15 Oct 24 to continue planning and strengthening the relationship with the city.



BE A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR OUR VETERAN COMMUNITY  
COME CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY WITH OUR HOMETOWN VETERANS!  
ALL VETERAN SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.

Contact [moapublicaffairs@gobalsmarts.us](mailto:moapublicaffairs@gobalsmarts.us)

## NEVER STOP SERVING

Our combined “Veterans Service Team” offers many opportunities such as sharing membership and upcoming event opportunities. For example, the VFW lists over 120 military officers as members with the American Legion showing a like number eligible for membership in the Coronado Chapter. All team member calendars are shared and reviewed for joint team participation opportunities. This continues to heighten the visibility and recognition of the Coronado Chapter as an active, engaged member of the City of Sierra Vista and the military service community. Just some of September’s events.

AMERICAN LEGION BIKE BASH



VFW VET FEST



VETERAN MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER





## **SURVIVING SPOUSE DIRECTOR**

**Jane Strain, MAJ, USA (Ret)**

jstrain801@gmail.com

(520) 249-4057

Greetings from your Coronado Chapter Surviving Spouse Group!!

Our Coronado Chapter Surviving Spouse group will hold our third social gathering on 30 October, 3:15pm at the Manda'Le restaurant. We plan to enjoy a casual lunch. During the lunch, will discuss our January 4, 2025 trip to Gas Light Theater to see the Scrooge performance. We have a block of 30 tickets. Ticket cost is \$28. After all the surviving spouses have had an opportunity to purchase tickets, the remaining tickets will be available for all members.

The Surviving Spouses steering committee will continue to call the individual surviving spouses each committee has been assigned to call. Donna Goodman, Kandy Clenney, Janet Bobar, Jodie Heinz and Jane Strain will call their designated group.

We are delighted that Julia Ours has agreed to be the Deputy Director, Care Givers. In this role Julia will be our focal point for care giver topics.

The new year will bring us to more surviving topics that will assist all of us to continue our goal of "Never Stop Serving."

During our October 17 meeting, we will also have the privilege to hear Sierra Vista Fire Inspector Mike Shamus present several services offered by the Sierra Vista Fire and Cochise County Sheriff's departments. Mike will explain the Lockbox Program, Smoke Detector checks, Vial of Life form, the Sheriff's Wellness Check program among other services. This is an excellent opportunity for us to learn more about the resources available in Sierra Vista.

Jane Strain, Surviving Spouse Director



## JROTC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

**Lori Wysong, CW3, USA (Ret)**

lolowysong6@gmail.com

(520) 227-9402

I would like to take a moment to just state that the spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in our local JROTC units as they epitomize the MOAA motto of “Never Stop Serving”. Be it their assistance to our VFW Post, posting the colors for community events, participating in fundraisers for the benefit of organizations such as Walk for Life, or just helping out on a Saturday morning to serve breakfast to veterans at the American Legion, these fine young people reflect the traits that make this county great and who also deserve our support.

To that end, I am happy to announce that the Coronado Chapter was able to make a donation of \$1,000 to the Buena JROTC unit based on a request from their Army JROTC Instructor SFC(R) Centoria Loudon, to help fund uniform items.

Also, WE NEED RAFFLE ITEMS!

I am constantly on the lookout for items to raffle at our monthly dinner meetings. These raffles are not only fun (since you never know what’s going to be on the table) but they also provide a steady stream of income for our Scholarship Fund which benefits all our local high schools and both our JROTC and non-JROTC students. Please consider donating to keep our raffle alive!

Lori Wysong  
Director, JROTC





**SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR**

**Kathy Youngblood**  
**kdyoungblood@yahoo.com**  
**(520) 227-6036**

Dear Fellow Members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Scholarship Program. During the September dinner meeting we presented the COL Iluminada Chinneth Nursing Scholarship Award, made possible thru a \$5,000 donation to the Coronado Chapter by COL Chinneth to specifically establish a Nursing Scholarship. The donation will be an ongoing contribution to the scholarship to continue to fund a nursing student. During her remarks COL Chinneth expressed the need to assist nursing students due to the current nationwide nurse shortage. She also discussed the opportunities available for students who choose a military career in nursing versus the private or public sector.

This years Nursing Scholarship Award recipient is Maya Working. Maya is working on her BSN thru Northern Arizona University at Pima Community College in Tucson. She is currently in her 4th semester and is planning to work in Labor and Delivery. She is a native of Cochise County and her grandfather, Howard Working, was a prior member of the Coronado Chapter MOAA. We wish Maya great success and a promising future.

Also, come join us to celebrate Veterans Day! After the Sierra Vista Veterans Day Parade come join us in Ramada 7 in Tompkins Park for a new member "Meet and Greet" while enjoying great food, raffles and games. The Coronado Chapter will be supplying the main entree and water. We ask that members whose last name begins with A-M please bring a side dish and members with last names beginning with N-Z bring a dessert. Don't forget your lawn chair as seating is limited. You can also BYOB. Please RSVP to Jim Clenney at 520-234-5286 or email to coronadomoaa@gmail.com by November 6, 2024. We will be having a Meat Raffle along with Corn-Hole, Lawn Tic-Tac-Toe and Jenga competition. Please join us to celebrate Veterans day and meet some of our new Coronado Chapter members!

Lastly, save the date for The 2nd Annual Army-Navy (or Navy-Army) Game Watch Party at Doc's Watering Hole on December 14, 2024. The Scholarship Committee has been working hard to make this year's Watch Party more fun and successful than last year! Our FUNdraiser last year supported our Scholarship fund with an additional \$2000. Our goal is to double that amount this year so mark your calendars and don't miss out!

Kathy Youngblood, Scholarship Director



# PICNIC IN THE PARK

**NEW MEMBER  
MEET AND GREET**

COME CELEBRATE WITH

**MOAA**

Coronado Chapter

Brought to you by our dedicated  
Membership and Scholarship Committees

— 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER —  
**VETERANS DAY**  
\*\*\* HONORING ALL WHO SERVED \*\*\*

Designed by Freepik

## JOIN US

Immediately after/following  
the Sierra Vista Veterans Day

Parade at

Tompkins Park

2060 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St. and BST

Sierra Vista, AZ

BYOB and your lawn chair!



RSVP to Jim Clenney

520.234.5286

## POTLUCK • RAFFLES • GAMES

Main entrée and water will be  
provided.

Members with last names beginning  
with A-M please bring a side dish.

Members with last names beginning  
with N-Z please bring a dessert.





## 2nd VICE PRESIDENT (Programs)

Tom Hessler, COL, USA (Ret)

[tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net)

(520) 459-0093

### 17 October 2024 Program

LTC Dana Allred, CEO, Az Dept of Veteran Services  
Social Hour at 1800, Dinner at 1830, and Program at 1915.

Following in the footsteps of her father and grandfather, retired Army LTC Dana Allmond has committed her life to public service and currently serves as the Cabinet Executive Officer, Executive Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

The daughter of a Vietnam-era veteran, LTC Allmond enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve as an administrative specialist in 1989. She later attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Individual Psychology. She earned her commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1994. LTC Allmond also has a Masters in Counseling and Leader Development from Long Island University and a Master of Business Administration from Arizona State University.



Throughout her military career, LTC Allmond was a tactical officer, company commander, served in a combat zone, and was a Chief Executive Officer and Battalion Commander. She also led Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard and Department of Defense civilian personnel at six Military Entrance Processing Stations.

After retiring from the military, LTC Allmond continued her service with Veteran health care groups in Southern Arizona. She currently lives in Marana with her husband Jon and her four children.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

21 Nov 24	Chapter Board Reports & Elections
19 Dec 24	Sierra Vista Community Chorus
16 Jan 25	Allyn Nock, BrightStar Care. (And induction of New Board Members)
20 Feb 25	Ms, Cheri A. Oz, Drug Enforcement Administration
20 Mar 25	Honoring our Surviving Spouses
17 Apr 25	Honoring our Scholarship recipients
15 May 25	TBD

*Please note: I have been the Programs guy for about 8 years and now wish to "retire" at the end of 2024. Let me know if you would be interested in taking over next year. I am willing to assist and train. Contact me at [tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net) or catch me at a dinner meeting.*

## Thursday, October 17, 2024 DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Pueblo Del Sol Country Club, 2770 South Saint Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista

Social Hour 1800 - Dinner 1830 - Program 1915

My Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check Information: Make checks payable to Coronado Chapter, MOAA and mail to: Reservations,  
Coronado Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85636-1685

Total for meal(s) at \$36.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Operating Fund (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Scholarship Fund (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Total \_\_\_\_\_

No. of vegetarian meals desired (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

**OCTOBER BUFFET MENU**

Fresh Garden Salad w/Dressing

Chicken Marsala

Mashed Potatoes

Chef's Vegetable of the Day

**Dessert:** Strawberry ShortcakeMailed Reservations should be postmarked by **October 3, 2024** to ensure timely receipt.**ENTER INFO BELOW ONLY IF REQUESTING CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For more Information about Reservations contact Tom Hessler at 459-0093, [tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net)**A Note about Reservations.**

We **MUST** give a **final** reservation count to the Sierra Vista Golf Center at Pueblo del Sol five days before the dinner. Your reservation should be postmarked 14 days prior to the dinner just to be sure we receive it in time.

If you even think you will be coming, you should make your reservation as early as possible. We can take cancelations up to eight days before the dinner. We can either return your check, destroy it or credit it toward the following dinner. If for some reason you miss the deadline give me a call at (520) 459-0093 or email me at [tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net) to be placed on a waiting list. We often times have last minute cancellations. Looking forward to seeing you there!



**ANNUAL HELIOGRAM SCHOLARSHIP DONORS LIST 2024****2024 SUSTAINING LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$300 or more)**

Breer, Ronald & Ruth	Carlson, Samantha
Chinneth, Iuminada	Hessler, Thomas
Jensen, Brooke	Kilpatrick, Merle
Lotero, Ronald & Cynthia	Molloy Family Trust
Nelson, Camille	Wysong, Roger & Lorenza

**2023 GOLD LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$200 to \$299)**

Bobar, Janet	Carver, Betsy
Faulkner, Ronald	Haymore-CrossCountry Mfg
March, FW & JK	Otsuka, Yukio & NM
Puett, Joseph & Margaret	

**2024 SILVER LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$100 to \$199)**

Bates, William & Joan	Bauerbach, Richard
Flynn, Joseph	Kellock, Robert
Lane, Judith	Molloy, Kyle
Nickles, DE & CA	Scheumann, Steven
Symmnes, Kenneth	

**2024 CHAPTER DONORS (Cumulative Donations Up to \$100)**

Goodman, Allen & Donna	Harju Lee & Song
Heinz, Jo-Anne	Hicks, William
Steele, Tie & Mary	Walsh, Teresa
Wozniak, Ed & Kaylee	

**Please Support the organizations and businesses shown in our newsletter!  
All have Sponsored and Supported our Chapter in Many Outstanding  
Ways!**

**TOTAL TO-DATE: \$5,212.00****GOAL: \$10,000.00**

**Please Support these organizations  
and businesses!**  
**All have Sponsored and Supported our Chapter in Many Outstanding Ways!**



**Kat Matys, Manager**  
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Order online at [ogtogo.com](http://ogtogo.com)



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**Greg Montoya**  
President

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**459-2315**  
Sierra Vista, AZ



**James R. "Bob" Bob Currieo**  
**VFW Post 9972**



**Bill Carmichael American**  
**Legion Post 52**





## VETERAN SUICIDE

How much do we think about veteran suicide? This is not a topic that is regularly included in daily interactions with our neighbors. Typically and honestly, I only seem to focus on this when I am focused on it. I am working to change that, and I encourage you to understand what we are facing. In recent weeks, MOAA has joined in the efforts of Cochise Serving Veterans and other VSOs to create a county-wide resource network to address the mental health needs of our veteran family. We are in combat with the heinous enemy of suicide. I ask for your support and input as I lay out the battleground with the following information:

The U.S. suffered 101,847 casualties across Vietnam, Korea, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Over 120,000 veteran suicides have been completed over the past 20 years.

At 19.4%, our county ranks **fourth** in the percentage of adults who have served in uniform, among all metropolitan and rural areas in the United States.

Arizona's veteran suicide rate remains significantly higher than both the national veteran suicide rate and the general population's suicide rate.

In 2023, veteran suicides accounted for 20.6% of all U.S. adult suicides.

65% of all American deaths by suicide (2019 - 2023) were among middle-aged and older veterans

Suicide rates are notably higher and have increased more rapidly in rural areas compared to large metropolitan counties. In a direct correlation, Cochise County has the second-highest rate of veteran suicide in Arizona.

In 2023, the VA allocated \$2.8 billion to provide veteran medical care in Arizona \$115,000 was specifically designated for Cochise County to cover medical services, administration, facility maintenance, educational support, research, and other overhead costs.

Not to put too blunt of a point on this topic...BUT, if the above information doesn't concern you, you aren't paying attention. Help us to address and overcome these numbers. Join us in some way. Advise, Support, Act.

Thank you all for your service to the various communities that you are members of. Thank you for your continued personal leadership.

## SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Coronado Chapter has "Support the United Arizona Veterans in helping to find ways to reduce veteran suicides in Arizona" as one of our five Chapter Goals. Below are ways we can help:

**Publicize "Be Connected,"** a program "Connecting Arizona service members, veterans, families & helpers to information, support and resources." Their website is <https://beconnectedaz.org/> or call 1-866-4AZ-VETS (429-8387). We are now "Be Connected" Partners.



**Support “22 a Month to End 22 a Day.”** At the Warrior Healing Center, they are fighting this problem innovatively to restore hope. You can get more information at <https://chuffed.org/project/22-a-month-to-end-22-a-day>.

**Emory Healthcare Veterans Program**, free to qualified **post-9/11** military servicemembers and Veterans. This program is designed to treat conditions such as **post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**, **traumatic brain injury (TBI)**, **military sexual trauma (MST)**, **anxiety**, and **depression** related to past military service. More information can be found at <https://www.emoryhealthcare.org/centers-programs/veterans-program/index.html>.



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**About the Coronado Chapter of the  
Military Officers Association of America.**

The Heliogram is published nine times each year by the Coronado Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). We don't publish in June, July, or August. Our chapter is a not-for-profit organization registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission and recognized by the federal Internal Revenue Service under 28 U.S.C. 501 (c) (19). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan. Visit [www.moaacoronado.org](http://www.moaacoronado.org), our website. Look for us on Facebook at: MOAA Coronado Chapter Sierra Vista, Arizona. Visit the MOAA legislative website to "Take Action" and receive relevant and timely legislative updates: <http://www.MOAA.org/Legislative>. Our post office address is: P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85636-1685. A complete list of our officers and directors appears at left. We welcome your calls and emails. Our email address for general inquiries is [coronadomoaa@gmail.com](mailto:coronadomoaa@gmail.com)

According to MOAA Bylaws, our membership shall be composed of: (a). Men and women who are or have been officers — that is, commissioned or warrant officers — of the regular, reserve or National Guard of the United States in one of the eight US uniformed services of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service, and Space Command. (b). Widows and widowers of deceased members or of any deceased individual who would, if living, be eligible for membership. (c). Individuals elected as Honorary Members as set forth in Section 2 (e) of this Article. (d). There shall be no discrimination in membership or participation in the affairs of the Association by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age.

**WE NEVER  
STOPPED SERVING!**